

Human Relations News

from the

MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON GROUP RELATIONS

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

LEO P. CARLIN, MAYOR

An official agency created by the Newark Fair Practice Ordinance to carry out the State policy against discrimination based on race, color, creed or national origin.

Vol. 2 No. 1

A bi-monthly summary of facts and trends in human relations and civil rights

October 1957

Program for United Nations Week

For the fifth consecutive year, the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations was designated as the agency to coordinate the city-wide observance of United Nations Week. These celebrations bring together the representatives and members of more than one hundred clubs, organizations and institutions who co-operate in the planning and production of the programs. These citizens are not only representative of the civic and social organizations of this community but also the racial, ethnic and religious groups of Newark. During the four months of its activities, the Planning Committee is a model of United Nations organization in operation. Mrs. Philip Josephson was named chairman of the Newark Committee for the 3rd consecutive year.

This year's observance, to be held at The Essex House, on Tuesday October 29, will feature a UN dinner, at 6:30 p.m., followed by an open, public meeting highlighting the folk dancing and music of Italy, Israel, Turkey, Ghana, Ireland, Far Eastern and South American countries. The dinner is in honor of the Ambassador from the newest UN Member - State, Malaya, His Excellency Dr. Ismail bin Dato 'Abdul Rahman. The Ambassador will be the principal speaker. Mayor Leo P. Carlin will also honor the many organizations which have cooperated in sponsoring the Newark UN Day Celebrations for the past five years. The cost of the dinner is \$5.00 per person.

The Folk Festival will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the Elizabethan Room of the

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Survey of Changing Neighborhoods In Newark Proceeds

Formal Proposals Requested For Research Program

Benjamin A. Collier, Chairman of the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations announced last week that the Commission will launch an intensive survey of changing neighborhoods in this community. He said, that a general population inventory will be made to supply general background information necessary for the continuing education and action program of the Commission.

Daniel Anthony, Commission Director announced that the areas of the

study were selected on the basis of findings of a research team led by Dr. Chester Rapkin of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies.

The Newark Evening News characterized the study, "Newark exceptionally fine in Civil Rights". The New York Times and other newspapers and magazines have given prominent space to the research being conducted in Newark. (See next Page.)

Samuel Weitzman, Chairman of the

(Continued on Page 4, Column 3)



Representatives of co-operating organizations at a recent meeting, plan for the 12th United Nations Anniversary celebration on October 29th. Mayor Leo P. Carlin is honorary chairman of the event and Mrs. Philip Josephson is chairman.

Newark News

Newark Evening News

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1957

Gratifying Report

THE racial agitation in Little Rock has induced a little soul-searching everywhere else in the nation where ancient prejudices persist. In Newark this self-examination has taken official form in a timely and exhaustive report issued by a research team from the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies. The survey was undertaken three months ago, long before the name of Gov. Faubus was spread across the world's front pages. The report was prepared at the behest of Mayor Carlisle's Commission on Group Relations. This, and the fact there exists in this city such a commission, made the researchers, place Newark in "that leading minority of American cities whose answers for group relations and civil rights is keen and unerring."

Even among Northern cities, the survey found, Newark's public record in establishing and protecting the civil rights of all groups is "exceptionally fine." However, racial tensions still exist in Newark. Despite the best intentions, the survey pointed out, animosities are not always appear quickly and prejudices do not die easily.

Nevertheless, the Negro has made great progress in Newark economically and socially. The report is emphasizing that hotels, restaurants, bowling alleys and swimming pools are open to him without question. As for schools, the report indicated that here the problem was more that of inadequate facilities in all sections of the city than anything else.

Although some employers may continue to discriminate in hiring and upgrading Negroes, the report said that few now exclude them completely and "barrier after barrier to employment of minorities in offices, factories and laboratories has fallen."

From the enlarged opportunities for Negroes have come a strengthening of "middle-income attitudes" and a resulting steady increase in the number of homes in Newark. War II. This trend, the report added, was quickened by the Supreme Court's 1948 decision declaring restrictive covenants unenforceable. In addition, Newark has built more public housing than any other city of its size and has "made a

most toward integrated

the white population has changes in neighborhood the survey noted that the suffered no outbreaks of In fact, it singled out the Clinton Hill Neighborhood as an "outstanding example of a promoting harmonious a mixed Negro-white

it is highly gratifying to the city cannot root is still room for in our attitudes toward

NEWARK, N. J., SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1957

TELEPHONE MARKET

Newark 'Exceptionally Fine' In Civil Rights, Study Says

By ANGEL BAGLINO

Newark's record in establishing and protecting the civil rights of all groups is "exceptionally fine," even among northern cities, but neighborhood tensions and problems areas like housing, employment and schools still remain.

Those were the conclusions of a research team headed by Dr. Chester Rapkin of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies, after a three-month survey of group relations in Newark.

The 152-page report was prepared for the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations. It will serve as a background for a preliminary report on group relations it would prepare as a basis for a study of changing neighborhood and a population inventory.

Dr. Rapkin was assisted by George and Eugene Grier, research assistants in sociology and human relations, who now are with the New York State Division of Social Planning. The significance of the study was pointed out by the report's estimate that between 130,000 and 150,000 Negroes

now live in Newark and that they comprise between 15 and 20 per cent of the city's population.

The report pointed out that Newark's Negro population has declined steadily since 1930, while the number of Negroes will serve as a background for a preliminary report on group relations it would prepare as a basis for a study of changing neighborhood and a population inventory.

Some Tensions In emphasizing that their survey was devoted mainly to an analysis of relations between whites and Negroes, the researchers stated: "Although there are definite

indications of racialized tensions among the many religious and national ethnic groups in Newark, there is little evidence that these tensions today greatly inhibit access of any of these groups to such essentials as housing or employment. Negroes in Newark, as the Griers are, are clearly underprivileged in these areas."

Dr. Rapkin and the Griers gave this summary of their general findings:

"Newark's public record in establishing and protecting the civil rights of all groups is exceptionally fine, even among northern cities. Hotels, restaurants, bowling alleys and swimming pools are open without question to Negroes."

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THE NEW YORK TIMES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1957

NEWARK TO PRESS POPULATION STUDY

Survey by Group Relations Commission Will Consider Neighborhood Changes

By MILTON DENNIS

NEWARK, Oct. 5.—The Mayor's Commission on Group Relations announced today that as a follow-up on a preliminary report on group relations it would prepare as a basis for a study of changing neighborhood and a population inventory.

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The preliminary survey, made public last week, was conducted by a team headed by Dr. Chester Rapkin of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies. It outlined the scope of problems in group relations and related them to the economy, housing, schools and other services offered by the city.

It outlined Newark with being an "exceptionally fine" record in establishing and protecting the civil rights of all groups, but found neighborhood tensions among whites and non-whites. It also pointed out problems in employment, housing and schools that exist in Newark.

Mr. Calver said the population inventory would attempt to determine as "accurately as possible" the racial and nationality group populations of Newark and relate the information to changing neighborhood patterns.

The study is expected to include racial attitudes in neighborhoods in which a racial composition has changed, in those that are in the process of changing and in those few areas that remain unchanged.

David B. Archibald, director

Newark Cited for Record on Rights

Survey of Group Relations Praises City's Exceptional Rating

Newark's record in establishing and protecting civil rights among all groups "is exceptionally high, even among northern cities," according to a report made public last week. The report was written by a research team headed by Dr. Chester Rapkin of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies, following a three-month survey of group relations in Newark.

The report found, however, that racial tensions still exist in areas such as housing and employment. The 152-page report was prepared for the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations.

THE JEWISH NEWS

purchase of homes by Negroes in this section "usually is accompanied by agitation from residents that will change the neighborhood, or of discontent to gent and flight."

And Below Value

It is said that many white families sell their homes for less than their real value.

The report also notes that there appear to be two housing markets for white and the other for Negroes. A Negro who wishes to buy a home in a white neighborhood is usually asked to pay a price higher than the one which a white man would pay for the same property. The report also noted that financial institutions are reluctant to give mortgages to Negroes to buy in transitional areas.

The report adds that it has been possible for Negroes to buy homes in Newark, but that the Negroes have been forced to buy in areas where the Negro population is high. It also noted that the Negroes have been forced to buy in areas where the Negro population is high.

THE NEWARK (Newark, N. J.) STAR-LEDGER, SEPTEMBER 29, 1957

Newark rates high in civil rights

By CHAS. F. GARRITY

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Dr. Rapkin and the Griers gave this summary of their general findings:

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One of the significant advances

PROGRAM SERVICES FOR NEWARK ORGANIZATIONS

In the last issue of Human Relations News, the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations offered to all organizations and clubs in the Newark area, a program arranging service for local meetings and discussions.

The response to this extension of the Commission's educational facilities has been outstanding. Requests have come in from a broad cross-section of organizations indicating their plans to conduct programs on human relations. Among those which have responded are: religious institutions and church clubs; civic and social clubs; fraternities and sororities; PTA's; service and business clubs; library groups; veterans' organizations and community councils.

Here is a sample of programs booked during the months of September and October:

Guid for Jewish Children—"You and other People"

John A. Brady Association — Film Forum: Prejudice & Employment

Cleveland Jr. High School—Panel-Film Forum: Psychology of Prejudice

Young Mothers' Club—Van Buren St. Branch Library: What is the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations?

Catholic Daughters of America—What is the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations?

Urban League Board—What is Community Survey?

Young Mothers' Club — Weequahic Branch Library: "You and other People" The Psychology of Prejudice

The following list of available films and topics include some of the areas of discussion in which your organization may be interested. A program can be arranged to meet the needs and specific concerns of your group. Please let us know what they are.

Films

BOUNDARY LINES: Animated cartoon revealing the scientific facts of the biological commonness of all people.

THE HIGH WALL: Its scenes, conversations, and commentary provide rich material for discussions on education and child development, on community and intergroup relations, and on the ethics emphasized in religious teaching.

OUR TOWN IS THE WORLD: A dramatic lesson in democracy, as youngsters from different parts of town discover that they can plan and get along together when understanding replaces ignorance and intolerance.

PICTURE IN YOUR MIND: A powerful presentation and plea for understanding of man's need to find a way to live peacefully on our congested earth.

CAN WE IMMUNIZE AGAINST PREJUDICE?: A discussion springboard of animated drawings depicting three ways parents try to raise their children free of prejudice but with limited success. Asks how we can more effectively immunize against prejudice.

RUMOR: A discussion film case history of how a rumor can and did cause inter-group tension and conflict. It asks how we can stop such rumors from spreading.

TEANECK'S INTERRACIAL NEIGHBORHOOD: Television documentary report of how white families in Teaneck, New Jersey, are accepting and working together with their Negro neighbors to improve property values instead of running away.

THE TOYMAKER: Puppets play happily together until they discover differences in their appearance. Fear and a fight follow until they realize that they are both created and loved by the same God.

THE PRINCESS IN THE TOWER: The touching story of a newcomer to a typical neighborhood who feels lonely and rejected until she learns that to be accepted she must try to be a friendly neighbor and accept others as of equal worth in their own individual and interesting way.

THE GREENIE: The story of a little Polish refugee boy, recently arrived in

America, who is at first ridiculed and rejected by the youngsters on his block, but is finally accepted by them in true American spirit.

COMMENCEMENT: The President's Committee on Government Contracts: The story of how an employer's failure to make clear his policy of employment on merit resulted in his subordinates and employment referral agencies assuming that minority workers were not wanted, thus depriving his company of some of the best qualified workers.

THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL: Based on the "Turnover Talk for Fair Practices," concerns how discrimination weakens the unions and hurts all workers, and what labor people can do to secure full and equal opportunity for all.

RUMOR CLINIC. Film strip. A humorous "game" guaranteed to involve even "wall-flowers" in a lively discussion and self-teaching demonstration that we all have stereotypes of members of other groups that distort what we see and hear and that may cause harmful rumors.

Topics for Discussion

1. What is the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations?
2. Panel discussion on Rutgers Workshop in Human Relations.
3. Film forum on the Psychology of Prejudice.
4. The Unfinished Business of American democracy.
5. What is a Community Survey of Intergroup Relations?
6. The Law and Civil Rights.
7. Human Relations in New Jersey.
8. How to Answer Prejudiced Remarks.

If you are interested in arranging a program for your club, contact the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations, Room 214, City Hall, Newark, N. J. MI 3-6300, Ext. 281. Ask for Daniel Anthony or Walter Chambers.

United Nations Week

(Continued from Page 1 Column 1)

Hotel Essex House. This phase of the celebration is open to the public, free of charge. Tickets for this program are available to any individual or organization through the office of the Mayor's Commission, Room 214, City Hall, Newark, Mitchell 3-6300, Ext. 281. This is a Newark Celebration open to all, with or without a ticket. Tickets will be honored between 7:30-8 p.m. to assure you a selection of the best seats.

The enthusiasm and co-operative efforts which have led to the success of past celebrations are certainly evident this year. Besides the usual problems of planning an outstanding program, the Committee is faced with the task of raising most of its own funds to cover expenses of the celebration. Many of the co-operating organizations and individuals have already given or pledged financial support but more is still needed. Contributions may be sent to: Newark Committee for the United Nations Celebration, Room 214, City Hall, Newark 2, New Jersey.

Community Activities

The South Ward Home Owners and Tenants' League are planning their annual Clean-up Week campaign, October 15-22. This annual drive is directed by the League to enlist neighborhood support and participation in maintaining the standards and conditions of the South Ward.

This year the block campaign will be concentrated on Ridgewood Avenue, between Watson and Meeker Avenues. Residents of this area are invited to cooperate with their neighbors and members of the League in this clean-up drive, which will serve as a model for other blocks in this community.

Prizes will be awarded to those homes showing the greatest overall improve-

Police Recruit Training In Human Relations

The Staff of the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations, recently conducted a four hour course in human relations for 15 recruit policemen in training at the Newark Police Academy. The Academy is under the direction of Captain Richard Foley.

In the past, these groups have averaged 35-40 men, which sometimes makes group discussion difficult. A summary of all the course evaluations in four years indicates that 85% of the men rated the course either "very fine," "good" or "all right." Only 14% felt that the sessions were mediocre and 1% no good.

Even greater success was realized with this smaller group of fifteen who were highly enthusiastic and responsive in the discussions which followed the introductory presentations of the Staff members. The men were able to get into a deeper analysis of the psychology of prejudice, application of the New Jersey Anti-Discrimination Law and the role of the individual policeman in the field of human relations.

In their written evaluations of the course, eleven of the men rated the four hours very fine or excellent and four rated them good. Their comments indicated that all were in favor of the open discussion and freedom to speak which gave them a better understanding of the problem of intergroup relations as it affects their jobs as policemen.

A trophy was presented to last year's winner by Mayor Leo P. Carlin and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

For further information concerning the Clean-up Week campaign or the work of the League, contact Mrs. Frances Ford, 126 Watson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey.

SELECTED READING

James, Selwyn. *Learning to Live Together*. Redbank, June 1957. A revival after two years to Teaneck, New Jersey, which Redbank earlier featured in "We Refused to Give Up Our Homes," finds the community unchanged and white and Negro families good neighbors. Reprints of both articles available from the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing, 35 W. 32nd Street, N. Y. 1, N. Y.

Neighborhood Survey

(Continued from Page 1, Column 3)

Commission's Committee reported, "The specifications have been submitted to five responsible research organizations who will make formal proposals to the Commission before October 16th. On that date the Commission will select the organization who will be given the contract to complete the \$30,000 survey by December of 1958." Weitzman indicated that the purpose of this progressive research program is to supply the Commission with information which it can use in maintaining harmonious and peaceful relationships among the diversified groups which constitute the population of the City of Newark.

Collier added, "The Commission decided upon a study of changing neighborhoods and population trends because these two problems were most closely related to the future stability of neighborhoods in our community."

Research organizations will be asked to concentrate on the attitudes of New Yorkers in neighborhoods which have already changed in racial and ethnic composition, those which are in the process of changing and those few areas which still remain unchanged.

Dan Anthony said, "Such a survey will supply the Mayor, City Council and Commission on Group Relations with factual information necessary for a concerted approach to the ideal of a New Newark and a more prosperous and peaceful city."

MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON GROUP RELATIONS

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JERRY LEOPALDI, *Vice Chairman*

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